

copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record. Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, DC, June 28, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4251, the "SMART Port Security Act of 2012." I acknowledge that by forgoing action on this legislation, your Committee is not diminishing or altering its jurisdiction.

I also concur with you that forgoing action on this bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I agree that the Committee on Ways and Means is considered to be an "appropriate congressional committee" in regards to the certain reports required by section 201 in H.R. 4251.

I will include our letters on H.R. 4251 in the Congressional Record, and I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation.

Sincerely,

PETER T. KING,
Chairman.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was present for rollcall No. 431 and 433, and was off the floor talking with constituents from Douglas and Piatt Counties, and inadvertently missed the vote. I support the fiscal savings attendant to this amendment but had concerns over its language. Therefore, if present, I would have voted "Present."

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD COLEMAN KELLEY

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague and friend, Congressman KEN CALVERT, to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend, Richard Coleman Kelley. Richard passed away on Thursday, June 14, 2012. A devoted husband, brother, father, and grandfather, he will be deeply missed.

Richard was born March 19, 1930 in Corona, California to David and Margaret Kelley, who were beginning to develop their property in Hemet into a citrus grove. He attended schools in Corona, and after graduating from the Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad, California, he served honorably in the United States Air Force from 1950 to 1954. He spent a semester at the University of California at Davis before returning to work for his father on their family's ranch, only to later develop a citrus ranch of his own. In 1957, Richard married Jeanne Vig and continued to farm in Hemet while raising their three children, where he was partner of Kelley Citrus and owned Circle K Five Citrus.

It is hard to imagine that Richard had any free time on his hands, and yet he always found time for his community and family. Richard was active in his church, was vice president of the Riverside County Farm Bureau, president of the Hemet Optimist Club, was active in parent-teacher organizations, and supported every team and club in which his children participated. He also served on the board of Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) beginning in September of 1981, serving on the Legal Committee and as Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. Richard also enjoyed inventing, skiing, jogging, and farming. In fact, many of Richard and Jeanne's "vacations" were spent helping work on their daughter's and son's farms in Idaho.

In response to the high water costs that could have forced small farmers out of business in the early 1980s, Richard once said, "Agricultural water is my main interest . . . something has to be done." And as an EMWD board member and concerned citizen, he worked tirelessly to address this threat to an American way of life. That is just one testament to his can-do spirit and willingness to help solve problems in his home town that made him such a treasure to the Riverside County area for so long, and is what we will remember about him most.

On Wednesday, June 27, 2012, a memorial service celebrating Richard's extraordinary life was held. Richard will always be remembered for his legendary work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community, and love of family. His dedication to his work, family, and community are a testament to a life well-lived and a legacy that will continue. I extend my deepest condolences to Richard's family and friends. Although Richard may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to our great State will never be diminished and will never be forgotten.

Richard is survived by his children, Janice of Hemet, Kathy of Weiser, Idaho and Ron of Weiser, Idaho; five grandchildren; and his brother, former California State Assemblyman and Senator, David Kelley. Our thoughts and prayers are with Richard's family and the many others he touched.

JUSTICE FOR MIR QUASEM ALI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, as a Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, I met Mir Ahmad BinQuasem of Bangladesh. Mir Ahmad informed me that his father, Mir Quasem Ali, was arrested on June 17, 2012, by the Bangladesh International, War, Crimes Tribunal for alleged crimes committed during the 1971 War of Liberation against then-West Pakistan, and for campaigning "against the process of this [War Crimes] Tribunal in foreign countries." Mir Quasem Ali is the owner of Bangladesh's largest opposition-run media outlet, which has been openly critical of the Tribunal and of the ruling government at-large. As such, I am concerned that his arrest and ongoing detention may represent a thinly-veiled attempt by the ruling government of Bangladesh to silence its opponents and critics.

In addition to my concerns about this arrest, it has come to my attention that the Tribunal itself is inherently flawed and lacks compliance with international standards. It appears that the Tribunal is international in name only, as it lacks international oversight or involvement, experienced foreign attorneys have been banned from participating, and the Tribunal violates at least two of Bangladesh's international treaty obligations. Tribunal defendants are not only denied access to international standards of justice, but several of the rights granted by domestic law. These include the right to an independent appeal, which is explicitly denied to defendants of the Tribunal.

As a member of the Middle East and South Asia subcommittee, I am very concerned about the implications that Mir Quasem Ali's arrest has for the state of democracy within Bangladesh. I will continue to closely monitor this situation and I hope that Bangladesh will take assertive measures to ensure that its upcoming elections are conducted in an openly democratic matter. I am hopeful for a bright future for the people of Bangladesh with open and fair justice for all of its citizens.

OPPOSING THE CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 4348

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I have declined to add my signature to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 4348, legislation to reauthorize the highway trust fund.

While the highway bill has traditionally been the product of reasonable, bipartisan compromise, the House Republican's version of this year's bill was so extreme the Conference Report was hobbled from the start.

House Republicans took the jobs and economic development promised by this highway bill hostage—with unrelated provisions like the Keystone pipeline as the ransom—and the Senate had no choice but to negotiate with the hostage takers.

Provisions allocating critical conservation funding across the country, through the Land and Water Conservation Fund and a National Endowment for the Oceans, was struck from the Conference Report; only funding for the five Gulf States—Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and Texas—has survived. That funding will certainly be beneficial but the broader conservation programs should have been included, as well.

The Conference Report also includes provisions prohibiting the National Park Service from complying with the law limiting the impacts of aircraft noise on Grand Canyon National Park. Why we would want to use a transportation bill to make one of the crown jewels of the National Park System louder and dirtier is a mystery.

Most troubling, the Conference Report includes unjustified and harmful provisions which will undermine environmental reviews of highway and transit projects. Republicans have claimed environmental reviews delay highway projects but the facts are that most transportation projects already proceed under expedited environmental reviews and there is no evidence whatsoever that these reviews cause delay.